United Nations A/C.6/58/L.1

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
22 September 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session
Sixth Committee

Organization of work

Note by the Secretariat

1. In order to assist the Sixth Committee in the organization of its work, the Secretariat finds it appropriate, in the light of General Assembly resolutions 1898 (XVIII) of 11 November 1963 and 32/71 of 9 December 1977 and of rule 99 (b) of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, to draw the attention of the Sixth Committee to the following.

Items allocated to the Sixth Committee

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2003, the General Assembly allocated 17 items to the Sixth Committee. The list of those items is contained in the letter dated 19 September 2003 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Sixth Committee (A/C.6/58/1).

Documentation relating to the items allocated to the Sixth Committee

3. The following table lists the documents of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly relating to the items allocated to the Sixth Committee. It includes references to the reports of commissions or committees and the reports that are to be submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolutions or decisions of the Assembly at preceding sessions, as well as to the documents circulated under the agenda items allocated to the Sixth Committee,[1] in accordance with requests of Member States.

[1] The figure in square brackets after the title of each item indicates its number on the agenda of the fifty-eighth session. The list of documents is based on information available as at 22 September 2003.

03-52966 (E) 250903

	Projected date of issuance
Administration of justice at the United Nations [128]	
Report of the Secretary-General entitled "Administration of justice in the Secretariat: outcome of the work of the Joint Appeals Board during 2001 and 2002" (A/58/300)	**Issued**
Progressive development of the principles and norms of international law relating to the new international economic order [148]	**No advance documentation**
United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law [149]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/58/___)	**End of October**
Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property [150]	
Report of the Ad Hoc Committee, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 22* (A/58/22)	**Issued**
Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-sixth session [151]	
Report of the Commission, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/58/17)	**Issued**
Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-fifth session [152]	
Report of the Commission, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/58/10)	**End of September**
Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country [153]	
Report of the Committee, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 26* (A/58/26)	**End of November**
International Criminal Court [154]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/58/372)	**Early October**
Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization [155]	
Report of the Special Committee, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/58/33)	**Issued**

	Projected date of issuance
Report of the Secretary-General on the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* (A/58/347)	End of September
Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions (A/58/346)	End of September
Measures to eliminate international terrorism [156]	
Report of the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 37* (A/58/37)	Issued
Report of the Secretary-General (A/58/116)	Issued
Addendum (A/58/116/Add. 1)	Early October
Letter dated 12 May 2003 from the Charge d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/58/78-S/2003/541)	Issued
Letter dated 10 June 2003 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/58/94-S/2003/642)	Issued
Letter dated 9 July 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/58/131-S/2003/703)	Issued
Identical letters dated 12 August 2003 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council (A/58/271-S/2003/808)	Issued
Letter dated 20 August 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/58/302-S/2003/827)	Issued
Note verbale dated 22 August 2003 from the Permanent Mission of Mali to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/58/315-S/2003/845)	Issued
Letter dated 11 September 2003 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/58/361-S/2003/877)	Issued

	Projected date of issuance
Scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel [157]	
Report of the Ad Hoc Committee, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 52* (A/58/52)	**Issued**
Report of the Secretary-General (A/58/187)	**Issued**
Letter dated 20 August 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/58/302-S/2003/827)	**Issued**
International convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings [158]	
Letter dated 2 April 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/58/73)	**Issued**
Observer status for the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance in the General Assembly [159]	**No advance documentation**
Observer status for the Eurasian Economic Community in the General Assembly [162]	
Letter dated 11 June 2003 from the Permanent Representatives of Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly (A/58/143)	**Issued**
Observer status for the GUUAM in the General Assembly [163]	
Letter dated 4 September 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/58/231)	**Issued**
Observer status for the East African Community in the General Assembly [164]	
Letter dated 4 September 2003 from the Permanent Representatives of Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/58/232)	**Issued**
Election of the officers of the Main Committees [5]	**No advance documentation**

Date for concluding the work of the Committee, order and approximate dates of consideration of items

4. Rule 99 (b) of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly provides that:

> "Each Main Committee, taking into account the closing date for the session fixed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the General Committee, shall adopt its own priorities and meet as may be necessary to complete the consideration of the items referred to it. It shall at the beginning of the session adopt a programme of work indicating, if possible, a target date for the conclusion of its work, the approximate dates of consideration of items and the number of meetings to be allocated to each item."

5. Bearing in mind the number of meetings available to the Sixth Committee (see para. 12 below), it is proposed that the Committee set a target date of 5 November 2003 for the conclusion of its work.

6. The Sixth Committee may wish to consider, for the purpose of adopting its programme of work, the following timetable, which indicates approximate dates of consideration for the agenda items referred to it and has been drawn up on the basis of the relevant General Assembly resolutions and previous programmes of work adopted by the Committee:

	Approximate dates of consideration
Elections of the main officers of the Main Committees [5]	29 September 5 November
International convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings [158]	29 September-3 October 20 and 21 October
Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-sixth session [151]	6 October
Observer status for the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance in the General Assembly [159]	6 October
Measures to eliminate international terrorism [156]	6-10 October 15 and 16 October
Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization [155]	9 and 10 October
Observer status for the Eurasian Economic Community in the General Assembly [162]	9 October
Observer status for the GUUAM in the General Assembly [163]	9 October
Observer status for the East African Community in the General Assembly [164]	9 October

	Approximate dates of consideration
Progressive development of the principles and norms of international law relating to the new international economic order [148]	9 October
Scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel [157]	13-17 October 23 October
Administration of justice at the United Nations [128]	17 October
International Criminal Court [154]	20 October
Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property [150]	21 and 22 October
Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-fifth session [152]	27 October-4 November
Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country [153]	5 November
United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law [149]	5 November
Reserve	6 November

Establishment of working groups and holding of consultations

7. Concerning agenda item 156, entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism", the General Assembly, in its resolution 57/27 of 19 November 2002, decided that the work (of the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996) should continue, if necessary, during the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly, within the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee. In the light of the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee contained in paragraph 16 of its report,[2] and following further consultations with the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Committee, the week of 6 to 10 October has been reserved for this purpose.

8. Concerning agenda item 157, entitled "Scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel", the General Assembly, in its resolution 57/28 of 19 November 2002, requested the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the measures taken to implement the resolution and decided to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel". Should the Sixth Committee decide to hold consultations or to establish a working group, time has been reserved for that purpose between 13 and 17 October.

[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 37* (A/58/37).

9. Concerning agenda item 158, entitled "International Convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings", the General Assembly, by its decision 57/512, decided that a working group of the Sixth Committee would be convened during the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly from 29 September to 3 October 2003 in order to continue the work undertaken during the fifty-seventh session.

10. In view of the limited conference services available to the Sixth Committee (see para. 12 below), any meetings for working groups or for informal consultations would have to be accommodated in place of, rather than in addition to, meetings allocated to the Committee.

Deadline for submission of draft resolutions with financial implications

11. According to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, "no resolution involving expenditure shall be recommended by a committee for approval by the General Assembly unless it is accompanied by an estimate of expenditures prepared by the Secretary-General". It is therefore imperative that the Sixth Committee allow sufficient time for the preparation of the estimates of expenditure by the Secretariat and for its consideration by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and by the Fifth Committee. Under the circumstances, if 5 November is accepted as the concluding date for the work of the Sixth Committee (see para. 5 above), 23 October 2003 would have to be considered as the mandatory deadline for submission to the Fifth Committee of draft resolutions with financial implications.

Conference resources available

12. The available conference facilities will, in principle, enable the Committee to hold no more than 9 or 10 plenary meetings per week and the working groups referred to in paragraphs 7, 8 and 9, above to hold, respectively, 6, 4 and 7 meetings for the week. Morning meetings will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and afternoon meetings from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

13. In order to avoid difficulties in the organization of services for the meetings of regional groups of the Committee, it is suggested that all requests for such meetings be channelled to the Planning and Meetings Servicing Section through the Secretary of the Committee.